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May 19, 2005

The Honorable Glenn F. McConnell
President *Pro Tempore*
The Senate
Room 102, Gressette
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you may know, the Judiciary Committee subcommittee screening Gubernatorial appointees to the Board of Directors of Santee Cooper has spent considerable time and effort over the past two days developing an understanding of the current state of affairs at Santee Cooper. The subcommittee anticipates screening individual appointees next week. We are concerned that we not delay the screening of any appointee, particularly those serving in an interim appointment capacity where their continued service on the Santee Cooper Board would end upon *sine die* adjournment of the General Assembly.

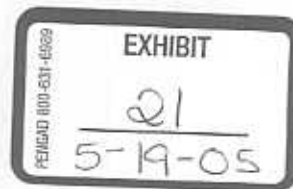
As you may recall, last year the Senate was criticized for allowing an important Gubernatorial appointment to expire, more or less by default, when it was indirectly filibustered the last day of the Session. We would not like to experience a repeat of such a situation.

Late on the evening of Monday, May 16, 2005, Henry White, Chief of Staff for Governor Sanford, notified Michael Couick that the Governor was requesting that Mr. Carl Falk's nomination be placed on hold. He indicated that the Governor hoped to have the situation resolved shortly (please see copy of email attached). By all preliminary indications, Mr. Falk is an excellent choice of appointment and there is every indication, absent new and contrary information, that our subcommittee would give him a favorable report.

If we are to consider his appointment, we would appreciate the Governor's Office's guidance as to its status. We would very much appreciate your help in determining the status of this matter.

Sincerely,


Luke A. Rankin



From: "Henry White" <hwhite@gov.sc.gov>
To: <mnc@scsenate.org>
Date: 5/16/2005 10:16:49 PM
Subject: Carl Falk

Mike,

After conversations with Mr. Falk, the Governor requests that Mr. Falk's nomination to the Santee Cooper board be placed on hold. We hope to have the situation resolved shortly.

Henry White
Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor

CC: "Carl Blackstone" <cblack@gov.sc.gov>